Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 VIENTI 01697 150711Z

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ACTION EA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-05 PM-03

NSC-06 PRS-01 PA-01 /037 W

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R 150433Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6741

CONFIDENTIAL VIENTIANE 1697

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-1 TAGS: PFOR, TH, VN, LA

SUBJECT: THAI AMBASSADOR SWATE EXPECTS TO VISIT HANOI

NNGDN AUGUST WITH FOREIGN MINISTER

- 1. AT BASTILLE DAY RECEPTION THAI AMBASSADOR SWATE APOLOGIZED FOR MISSING OUR INDEPENDENCE DAY RECEPVION, EXPLAINING THAT HFSRHAD TO GO TO BANGKOK THAT VERY DAY (JULY 5). THIS DOES NOT QUITE JIBE WITH STORY GIVEN ME BY THAI DCM AND MILITARY ATTACHE THAT SWATE WAS ABSENT BECAUSE HE WAS ATTENDING A WEDDING IN UBON.
- 2. AT ANY RATE SWATE HAS MAINTAINED HIS PERFECT RECORD OF DECLINING EVERY INVITATION I HAVE EXTENDED TO HIM SINCE MY ARRIVAL. WE LEARNED RECENTLY FROM A WESTERN COLLEAGUE THAT SWATE HAD COMPLAINED TO HIM THAT "THE AMERICANS" IN THAILAND AND MORE SPECIFICALLY "THE CIA" HAD LONG SOUGHT TO UNDERCUT HIS EFFORTS HERE AND WERE TRYING TO HAVE HIM REPLACED AS TOO PRO-LAO.
- 3. AT SAME RECEPTION PHILIPPINE MILITARY ATTACHE ABUNDO TOLD ME THAT SWATE HAD JUSTINFORMED HIM THAT HE, SWATE, WOULD ACCOMPANY THAI FOREIGN MINISTER PHICHAI TO HANOI IN AUGUST. ABUNDO ABQKED THAT AN OFFICER OF THE VIETNAMESE EMBASSY HAD CONFIRMED TO HIM THAT PHICHAI WOULD IN FACT VISIT HANOI IN AUGUST. CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 VIENTI 01697 150711Z

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Subject: THAI AMBASSADOR SWATE EXPECTS TO VISIT HANOI NNGDN AUGUST WITH FOREIGN MINISTER TAGS: PFOR, TH, VN, LA, US, (SWATE)

To: BANGKOK

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